

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A free standing ballet bar exercise device comprising:
  - a pair of legs, each leg having a proximal end and a distal end disposed away from the proximal end;
  - support arms pivotally attached to the legs at the legs' distal ends;
  - a horizontal exercise bar mounted between the support arms;
  - a first lower cross bar connecting the legs intermediate their ends;
  - an upper cross bar connecting the support arms; and
  - a backboard attached to the upper cross bar and attached to the first lower cross bar to support the exercise bar in a free standing position.
2. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 1 further comprising:
  - a floor board hingedly attached to the backboard and adapted to lay flat on a floor for supporting the weight of a user.
3. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 2 further comprising:
  - a second lower cross bar connecting the legs at their distal ends.
4. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 3 wherein the support arms are telescopic to enable the height of the ballet bar to be adjusted.

5. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 4 wherein the legs telescopically extend to enhance the stability of the unit.
6. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 4 further comprising a cushioned mat covering the floor board.
7. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 4 further comprising spring loaded knobs mounted at either end of the upper cross bar adjacent the support arms, the spring loaded knobs adapted to lock the support arms at a desired height.
8. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 4 wherein the floor board is joined to the bottom edge of the backboard by at least one hinge.
9. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 8 wherein the at least one hinge is releasably attached via a snap fit onto the first lower cross bar.
10. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 9 wherein at least one hinge is locked into place to the first lower cross bar by a spring loaded cammed handle.

11. (Original) A method of using the free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 4 comprising the steps of:

placing at least a portion of the user's body on the floor board to apply a downward force on the floor board and thus stabilize the device; and  
using the exercise bar to stretch or perform exercises.

12. Cancelled.

13. Cancelled.

14. Cancelled.

15. (Currently amended) A free standing ballet bar exercise device comprising:  
a pair of legs, each leg having a free, proximal end and a distal end disposed away  
from the proximal end;

a lower cross bar connecting the legs intermediate their ends;  
a support arm pivotally attached to each leg at the leg's distal end, each support  
arm having a bottom end where the support arm is connected to a leg and a top end;  
a horizontal exercise bar mounted to the top ends of the support arms;  
an upper cross bar connecting the support arms intermediate the bottom and top  
ends; and

a backboard rotatably attached to the upper cross bar and capable of extending  
substantially vertically to the floor to support the exercise bar in a free standing position;

~~The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 14~~ wherein the backboard is

releasably attached to the [[first]] lower cross bar.

16. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 15 further comprising a floor board hingedly attached to the backboard and adapted to lay flat on a floor for supporting the weight of a user.